iHmt'usioiiS of thti lag.ger Whales **are probuMy** due to the **fact that** measure meets **have been tiken,** not **in a,** straight line front snout **to tail, but along the bulging side.-* of** the **Cetacean,** rendered even more convex **than in nature by decomposition, and by pressure** duti to the immense tonnage of the creature.

The Cetacea are the most **perfectly** aquatic **of all mammals ;** they **nevtT** leave the waters which **they inhabit.** It **is** true **that** legends have **represented** them **AS** pasturing upon the **shore— Aeliazi npoke of Dolphins** racking in the sun's rays **upon the** sand ; and the ** Devil **Fish " of California, *Jtfttteh'iinifctfs* (see p. JJ57)** has given rL<e to Improbable stories —'but they are

Fia. 180.—-Killer. *Orca fffadiator.* x-4\ (After True.)

apparently only legends. Indeed a stranded Whale **cannot** live long, for it is **unable** to breathe, the **comparatively** feeble "breast **being** crushed by its own weight. In accordance with the purely aquatic habit, we find **a modification** of the outward **form** of the body (and as we shall see later **of many** of **the** in-ternal **organs),** which renders the **Cetacea** externally unlike all ofcher mammals. The form is fish-like, the **fore-limbs** are paddles, the tail is **expanded** into two horizontal flukes, which serve to propel the creature **through** the water.

The skin is **smooth** and shiny, so **smooth** and so shiny that it has often "been compared to coach leather. **But nevertheless** they are not entirely without that most essential character of the class **Manunaliii,** a coating of hair. The **hairy** covering **ig»** how-ever, reduced to the very smallest proportions; it is represented